

I am against your plan to force internet providers to make it easy for law enforcement to wire-tap internet communications for several reasons.

1. Security: Any type of system put in place to allow easy wire-tapping could have security holes that hackers can exploit for malicious intent. Whoever develops this technology will assure you that it is completely secure, but gaping security holes have been discovered in almost every piece of software written. Take WEP encryption, for example. 802.11 wireless internet like you or anyone else might use at home uses a type of encryption that turned out to be very easy to defeat and now has left most wireless systems in the country unsecure. A motivated hacker can generally penetrate WEP encryption in a period of time generally between 2 months and 2 days. I do not trust the government to provide me with secure communications.

2. Cost: are you going to pay for this? If you do, the taxpayer will pick up the tab as always. If you force internet providers to pay for it, you will drive up costs, I promise you of that.

3. Privacy. Although this system would be used only by police executing a warrant and in compliance with our laws, legislation in the distant future could change this. There is no telling what laws will be passed in 20 years and I would like to maintain my privacy.

I would also like to propose an alternate solution. Do you wire-tapping at the customer end. Splice into the cable lines, tap thier DSL line, etc, but do this to the people for whom you have a search warrant. This system has many benefits:

1. Security: There are no monitoring systems in place, they must be put in place when needed, so there is no system to hack into or exploit.

2. Cost: instead of wire tapping every router, you would only need a few broadband taps per jurisdictional area. It would be far cheaper.

3. Privacy: It will be clear and known who is being tapped and why, not just some agent randomly monitoring someone.

I think the system you are proposing is very good for the government and not very good for the citizens which is exactly why you are going to do

it and exactly why I will never receive a response (beyond perhaps a form-letter) from you. I fully expect my concerns to be ignored, and as much as I dislike many extremist positions of the ACLU, I am glad they are around to protect the average citizen when they don't even understand the threats to their rights. I also do not expect to see any mention of your proposals in the mainstream media. Have fun shredding this, there are some good ideas in here you may not want anyone to get ahold of.